

POSTER PRESENTATION

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# A new case management concept to decrease the rehospitalisation rate in heurischemic

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## Introduction / objectives

The treatment of patients suffering from the neuroischemic diabetic foot syndrome (DFS) comprises arterial revascularization (e.g. below-knee bypass surgery), minor amputations, debridements, as well as long-term specialized wound care. Following premature discharge to the homecare sector, the quality of postoperative care is often inadequate. Many patients are readmitted. We studied the influence of a trans-sectoral case management (CM), ensuring outpatient care according to our clinical standards, on the readmission rate, length of hospital stay (LOS) and the hospital's costs/benefit situation.

## Methods

DFS patients after implementation of the CM (Case Management Group (CMG); n = 202; 2007-2008) were compared with a historic control group (HCG; n = 190; 2005-2006). All patients had high maintenance foot wounds as well as healing incisional wounds following bypass surgery. Both groups were matched for the principal diagnosis, a patients clinical complexity level (PCCL) of 4, and G-DRG-related flat rate. From the 202 CMG patients evaluated, 54 received long-term trans-sectoral care by the CM.

## Results

The rehospitalization rate in the CMG was significantly reduced versus the HCG (9,8 % vs.16,7%; p = 0,041). The reduction of the revolving door effect in the CMG significantly improved the costs/revenue situation for the hospital. The LOS was unchanged.

## Conclusion

The implementation of a hospital-based trans-sectoral CM significantly reduces the rehospitalization rate in patients with neuroischemic DFS requiring bypass surgery. Hospital economics are improved.

## Disclosure of interest

None declared.

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